

The PCI Portal

A Monthly Newsletter from Porto Charities, Inc.

Special Calendar Edition...

Dear Friends of Porto,

As we close out the month of September, plans are in place for a very, very busy October and November. So...catch your breath...grab a pen...and get ready to mark up those calendars! This is **The PCI Portal - Special Calendar Edition**. Here we go...

Wednesday, Oct 5 at 7:30 pm - Porto's Virtual Open House You just finished going to the open house at your schools and here we come! So many changes are taking place within Porto that we wanted to invite you into our "virtual home" so we can fill you in on what's happening and you can ask us any questions that you might have. Sometimes the best way to find out what you need to know is to sit down and just have a conversation. We look forward to seeing you there! Just send an email to me at lrzepka@portocharities.org and I will send you the webinar link for Zoom.

Friday, Oct 7 - Porto's 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament Good News and Bad News! The bad news is we have to tell you that the golf tournament at the Regency at Dominion Valley Golf Course in Haymarket, VA is **SOLD OUT!** (though that really is kind of good news!) The **BETTER** news is that you can still support our efforts by donating [here](#).

Sunday, Oct 9 at 11:00 am - Bishop Burbidge's Annual Disability Awareness Mass at St. Mark's Parish in Vienna. You are invited to join us and the Bishop in celebration of disability awareness month. Porto will host a reception with the Bishop immediately following the Mass in St. Mark's Activities Center. **All are welcome!**

Thursday, Oct 20 at 7:30 am - Catholic Business Network of Northern Virginia (CBN-NOVA) The team here at Porto Charities will be the featured speakers at CBN-NOVA's breakfast meeting at Maggiano's in Tysons Corner. If you're a member of the CBN - NOVA, please join us that morning as we discuss Porto's impact on our Catholic community. For more information, please check the CBN-NOVA website [here](#).

Monday, Oct 24 at 7:00 pm - "Growing Inclusion - Basilica of St. Mary's" Porto's Inclusion Webinar Series continues with an inside look on how a new inclusion program can get started at your local schools and parishes. Funded through a generous grant from the **Maria Grazia Panaro Foundation**. The registration link will be ready soon and we will let you all know.

Saturday, Nov 5 at 8:00 am - From Inclusion to Belonging - Embracing Disability as Part of the Church - an in-person conference jointly sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Bishop O'Connell High School and Porto Charities. This half-day conference to be held at Bishop O'Connell High School is designed for clergy, catechists, youth ministers, volunteers, teachers, parents and students. This very special conference on inclusion will feature an inspiring keynote conversation, informative break-out sessions, an exhibition/networking area as well as a Welcome Address by Bishop Michael Burbidge who will also be the Celebrant at a sensory-friendly Mass immediately following the end of the conference proceedings. Pre-registration is required with a fee of only \$10.00. **You can access registration and see the full line-up of conference presenters [here](#).**

Thursday, Nov 10 at 7:00 pm - "Estate Planning for Persons with Special Needs and Their Families" presented by Kelly Thompson (Kelly A. Thompson, PCL) and Lamya Moosa (MWM Legal Group) . This will be the launch of a NEW series of webinars hosted by Porto's new Charitable Giving Committee. Details and registration info will be forthcoming so make sure you **circle the date on your calendar**.

Tuesday, Nov 29 - Giving Tuesday - the international day designated around the world asking everyone to support their local charities and non-profits. We were very blessed last year as Porto held our inaugural Giving Tuesday effort and loved all the home-made videos you sent in to participate in our Video Share-a-thon. Thank you for being so loyal and so generous. Well, the PCI team is at it again and working diligently on this year's idea! **Details will be announced** soon and we can't wait to see what you all do this year!

Special Sneak Peek!!!!

Saturday, Dec 3 - Porto's Annual Christmas Party!!! - Yes, it's back! After several years of dealing with the pandemic and everything that entailed, the annual Christmas Celebration will return and once again be held at Our Lady of Good Counsel. Lots of details to work out but please **mark your calendars**. Fun for kids of all ages! WE HAVE MISSED YOU!

And in Other Related News...

- And while ALL the activities above are in motion, please don't forget that during the months of **October, November and December**, we are still running our **"Special Kids/Special Needs"** Second Collection Campaign at parishes around the Diocese. Please check with your Pastor to find out the dates it will be held at your Church. If they haven't signed up yet, there is still time. Please have your pastor contact me at execdirector@portocharities.org and I will be happy to speak with him.
- Porto Charities will also be sending out a **"Call for Proposals"** to schools in the Diocese during the month of **October** soliciting grant requests for the 2023 calendar year. Deadline date for submission will be **November 30, 2022**. Criteria and applications will be posted on the Porto Charities website soon!
- Our new pilot program, the **Porto Works Employment Initiative**, is underway this month at the Chancery Offices of the Diocese. You may have seen the write-up in the **Sept 22-Oct 5, 2022** edition of the [Arlington Catholic Herald](#) where we announced that, with the support of Bishop Michael Burbidge, three of our local young adults have started work in their new positions. You will be hearing more about this program soon!
- And last, but certainly not least, during the months of **October** and **November**, we will be revamping our initial idea of a Parents' Advisory Council and moving toward a broader, more community-minded concept called the **Friends of Porto**. Over the last year as Porto Charities has expanded the size of our Board of Directors, added additional programming, increased our communication efforts and revisited our strategic plan, we have been hearing from not only parents, but brothers, sisters, relatives, friends, neighbors and still others who are drawn to our mission and are offering their help. Our NEW community has renewed our faith and inspired our efforts. **Welcome to the Friends of Porto...**

May God Bless All of You!

Larry Rzepka
Executive Director,
Porto Charities



At Porto Charities, our mission is to increase the educational and employment opportunities available to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through grants and advocacy programs supporting the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, VA.

[Donate Now](#)

[Visit our Website](#)



Thank You for Supporting Porto Charities, Inc.!

Porto Charities Inc is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable and educational organization (Tax ID #30-0544129). Contributions to Porto Charities are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

[Unsubscribe lrzepka@portocharities.org](mailto:lrzepka@portocharities.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent bylrzepka@portocharities.orgpowered by



Try email marketing for free today!
